

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section 13	Cultural Resources.....	13-1
13.1	Identification of Known Historic/ Prehistoric Sites	13-1
13.2	Proposed Mitigation (If Required)	13-1
13.3	Notification of Native Americans	13-2

13.0 CULTURAL RESOURCES

Cultural resources include archaeological and historical sites, objects, and districts; historic structures; cultural landscapes; and sites of concern to local Native Americans and other ethnic groups. This section documents the cultural resources that could be adversely affected by the construction and operation of the GWF Hanford Energy Park Peaker (HEPP). Measures are proposed to mitigate potential adverse impacts to cultural resources.

The cultural resource analysis for the Hanford Energy Park (HEP) Small Power Plant Exemption (SPPE) was completed in compliance with *Instructions to the California Energy Commission Staff for Review of and Information Requirements for an Application for Certification* (1992). Detailed information on the cultural resources in the study area for the HEP was previously included in a confidential technical appendix (Appendix C) to the SPPE application for the HEP that was submitted to the California Energy Commission (CEC) under a request for confidentiality pursuant to Title 20, California Code of Regulations (CCR), Section 2501 et seq.

13.1 IDENTIFICATION OF KNOWN HISTORIC/ PREHISTORIC SITES

Prior to conducting the field survey of the HEPP site, a records search was performed at the South San Joaquin Valley Information Center (SSJVIC) of the California Historic Resources Information System (CHRIS). The records search encompassed the HEPP site, its associated linear facilities, and a half-mile radius around them. Information was requested on archaeological sites and historic built environment resources. Information sources included the National Register of Historic Places, California Historic Landmarks, California Register of Historic Resources, California Points of Historical Interest, and the Historic American Building Survey/Historic American Engineering Record.

The field survey was conducted on February 1 and 2 and March 21, 2000, by Daniel Shoup and Bryon Bass. The survey covered the 10-acre proposed HEPP site and two 1-acre parcels for the proposed and alternate switchyards, plus a 100-foot buffer zone around them, in 15-meter (50-foot) linear transects. For the linear features of the HEPP, a 200-foot corridor (100 feet on either side of the centerline) was surveyed in 15- to 20-meter (50- to 65-foot) transects.

Except for the areas where the corridors were obstructed and the areas under agriculture, ground visibility was good. One historical linear feature, a historical telegraph line, was recorded. One historical isolate, a portion of an old fence line, was also recorded. The area in which the fence line is located has since been dropped from the project.

No prehistoric resources were located during the survey.

13.2 PROPOSED MITIGATION (IF REQUIRED)

No significant or potentially significant cultural resources are known to exist within the study area. The historical telegraph line that was discovered during the survey has been stripped of most of its older insulators. Many of the poles have fallen, and the telegraph line also appears to have been subject to regular maintenance, including replacement of the historical poles, in the recent past. Therefore, recordation appears to exhaust the information potential of this resource and constitutes sufficient mitigation for any impacts that it may suffer during construction.

It is possible that previously unknown cultural resources may be discovered in the course of the construction of the HEPP. Construction personnel will be instructed to halt their activities on the discovery of such materials. In the event of unanticipated discoveries of previously unknown cultural resources, a qualified archaeologist will evaluate the find for significance and, if necessary, recommend further mitigation measures.

The HEPP staff will document and report to the CEC the discovery during construction of any previously unknown significant cultural resources and consult with CEC staff regarding the management of any such resources, including the design and implementation of appropriate mitigation measures if the resource cannot be avoided.

If human remains are encountered during construction activities for the HEPP, work will stop immediately within 100 feet (30 meters) of the discovery, and the provisions of California Health and Safety Code Section 70500.5, Public Resources Code Section 5097.98, and other applicable sections shall apply.

It is anticipated that the construction of the HEPP will not result in any avoidable direct or indirect impacts to significant cultural resources. Consequently, the HEPP will not contribute to cumulative adverse direct or indirect impacts to the cultural resources inventory in the study area.

13.3 NOTIFICATION OF NATIVE AMERICANS

Concurrent with the records search at the SSJVIC and prior to the beginning of the field survey, members of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) were contacted for a list of local Native American groups and/or individuals with direct or indirect knowledge of cultural resources within or near the study area. A records search of the Sacred Lands File of the NAHC failed to indicate the presence of Native American cultural resources in the immediate area of the HEPP site.